

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1885.

Amerments To-day. Bijon Opera Bonse-Admit IP, M. Comedy Theatre-Keller, SP. M. Comedy Theatre-Relief Fr. M.
Entry's theatre-A Night Of S.P. M.
Eden Munce-Tableser in Wax, &c. 11 A. M. to 11 F. M.
Grand Opera Moube-Ob, What a Night I S.P. M.
Barrigan's Park Theatre-The Grip. S.P. M.
Booter & Him's Hurbespa, The Mikalo. S.F. M.
Lee Avenue Academy. Recording-Sibilita. S.F. M. Lycoum Theatre-One of Our Girls. 5:15 P. M. Lycoum Theatre-One of Our Girls. \$15 F. M.

Madison Square Desire-Saints and Sinners. \$25 P. M.

Manhattan Bink-Spin it and stiley.

Mount Morris Theatre-Onir a Woman's Heart, \$P. M.

Nible's Garden-The Satrather. 5 P. M.

People's Theatre-Woman Against Woman. \$ P. M. Star Theatre-The Black Hassar. & P. M. Standard Theatre-Christmin Pantomine, SP. M. Phalla Theatre-Seculet. FF. H.
Tony Paster's—Variety. SF. M.
Union Square: Theatre—Romeo and Juliet. SF. M.
Wallack's Theatre—Hoodman Blind. SF. M.

The regular circulation of THE SUN for the week ending Dec. 26, 1885, was: Funday 121,051 Phureday Nonday 84,670 Friday 14,455 saturday Wednesday 84,136 Weekly Weekly Total for the week ......

3d Avenue Theatre-Minitrale. SP. M.

Sih Avenue Theatre-Mikado 17. M.

44th Mtreet Theatro-Evangelina, SP, M

#### Mainly Imaginary.

One of the most striking passages in Mr. CLEVELAND's recent message is that in which he expresses himself upon the desire of citizens who have voted with the party in power, to obtain employment in the Federal service:

"Doubts may well be entertained whether our Govern ment could survive the strain of a continuance of this system, which, upon every change of Administration, inspires an immense army of claimants for office to lay slege to the patronage of the Government, engressing the time of public officers with their importunities, spreading abroad the contagion of their desappointment and filling the air with the turmoil of their discontent • • • Civil service reform, enforced by law, came no see soon to check the progress of demoralization." Are not the inconveniences which Presi-

dent CLEVELAND complains of mainly imaginary? From March, 1861, to March, 1885, twenty-four years, the Republican party was constantly in power, one President of that party succeeding another; and thus there was no opportunity for any such immense army of political claimants to lay slege to the patronage of the Government. As there was no change of party, but merely a change of the person at the head of the Administration, this dramatic and almost passionate description of Mr. CLEVE-LAND's cannot find justification in any state of facts that really existed. It is a fancy sketch. The men of the present generation have never seen it.

What strain upon the Government arose from office seeking during the whole of those twenty-four years? When Mr. LIN-COLN came in, there was a pretty general change, of course, but it was very soon completed. Most of the Southerners had quit. and gone in for the rebellion, so that an unvacated. Many Democrate of peculiar merit or peculiar qualifications were retained by the new President; yet the men of the new party had the great majority of the offices within six months after the inauguration; and nobody who knows the history of the period can allege that it was improper, or that any general harm came of it. From that time forward, except the spasmodic and nondescript interlude of ANDY JOHNSON, the Administration was in the hands of Republican Presidents, and some of them were exceedingly unwise and injudicious in some of their appointments; but, as the men appointed were all Republicans, nobody was dissatisfled except the Democrats, who were kept out, and who felt that the time was too long and that the period of exclusion ought to be ended. But, as for any strain upon the Conatitution or the Government on that account, it is altogether a matter of fancy, destitute of reality and of truth.

There is another point in Mr. CLEVELAND'S rhetoric which cannot be approved, and that office because they engross the time of the President and Cabinet with their importunities. But what else are the public officers there for but to attend to the business of the people, to hear their complaints and to answer their requests? It may not always be agreeable to a President or a Secretary to grant to a private citizen the time he wishes; but neither the President nor the Secretary is so tremendously exalted over the citizen that he can afford to repel his visit or refuse to consider his application.

And where is the demoralization of which Mr. CLEVELAND makes so much account? Who is demoralized, and how is it manifested? The business of a President or a Governor or a head of a department, who has subordinates to appoint, is to see that he appoints none but good men, and that the work to be done is well done. So long as no dishonest and no incapable officers get appointed, how can there be any more demoralization in appointing Democrats, without whom the election could not have been carried, than in appointing Republicans who voted for BLAINE, because they hear the certificates of Mr. DORMAN B. EATON that they have got such and such marks in an examination in grammar and geography?

A great deal of cant is affoat about this subject, and the passage we have quoted shows that to a considerable degree Mr. CLEVELAND finds this cant agreeable and satsfactory to his mind. We agree with him that there is an evident demoralization of the public service, but it has arisen altogether from the prolonged continuance of the Republican party in power, and not at all from the natural and just desire of Democrats to receive public employment under a Demoeratic Administration.

One fact should never be forgotten in debating this subject, and this is that the evils supposed to inhere in partisan changes on the accession of a new party and a new President, are purely theoretical and imagimary. No man born since Jackson's time can say that he has seen them with his own eyes, for they haven't existed.

# Who Are Their Friends?

Some of the Tory newspapers of London make light of the significance of the uprising for home rule by describing it as not an Irish but an Irish-American movement. The home-keeping Irishmen, they say, could not, without aid from the United States, have gained a third part of the seats now filled by Mr. PARNELL's colleagues. If this were true, it would reflect honor on this country, and it would not cast an atom of discredit on the

struggling patriots in Ireland. But, as a matter of fact, the effort to secure State rights for Ireland—so far as it derives momentum from this side of the Atlanticsprings from a deeper and more nearly universal impulse than the instinct of race affinity, and deserves a breader name than the Tory newspapers affix to it. We might better term it an American than an Irish-American movement, for there is no fraction of our people, no matter from what European nation it may draw its origin, which does not wish Ireland GoD speed in its indomitable

purpose to obtain the equitable measure of ocal independence which each of our own States enjoys in our Federal Union, and which was ungrudgingly restored to our southern brothers on the morrow of their

esperate rebellion. If there was ever any doubt about the breadth and depth of American enlistment in the cause which finds in Mr. PARNELL at once a constitutional and an unconquerable champion, no such doubt is longer tenable. now that the nature of the wrongs resented and the bright promise of the methods by which redress is sought are patent to the whole community. There is no man fit to dwell among us who, once awakened to the justice and moderation of the claims vindisated by the PARNELL party, will not say by voice and deed to their fellow citizens of Irish blood, Count me among your friends!

How, indeed, could Ireland's invocation of the right to control her local legislation fail to call out a quick response from those of us whose honored traditions go back to Revo lutionary times, and who owe the best of al we have to the inflexible assertion of the same right by our fathers? What can Ire land, writhing in the birth throes of nationa emancipation, expect, but sympathy and succor, from the exiled patriots of Germany, of Italy, of Poland and Hungary, who have found solace and prosperity in the American republic? Is it likely that these men would forget what they and their brothers fought for, at Warsaw in 1830 and 1863, in Germany and Hungary in 1848, and what at last was won for Italy just a quarter of a century ago?

No, the London press is ill informed with regard to the scope and the intensity of America's sympathy for Ireland in the battle for home rule about to convulse the House of Commons. There is no corner of this country where the Irish champions of liberty now need to ask, Who are my friends?

### The Old Codfish and Judge Endicott.

A venerable and very dry codfish hangs from the ceiling of the Representatives chamber in the Massachusetts State House The fish was put there one hundred and one years ago, by a vote of the Legislature, to be "a memorial of the importance of the cod fishery to the welfare of the Commonwealth. as had been usual formerly." Even then it was an ancient custom for the Massachusetts legislators to look up to a fish, swimming in the air over their heads, as the emblem of the State's most important industry. Undoubtedly it to an Essex county codfish.

Secretary Endicort also comes from Esser county, the principal scattof the fishery interests. His ancestors were in Essex county a century and a half before the present Stat House codfish was hooked. JOHN ENDICOTE was sent out from England by the Massachusetts Company in 1628 to superintend the plantation at Naumkeag, or Salem, as he named the place. Since that time the Endicorrs have had ample opportunity to acquaint themselves with the needs of the Essex county fisheries.

Secretary BAYARD loses no time in explaining that the action of the State Department, denounced in the letter of the Hon. R. S. SPOFFORD, to which THE SUN called attention on Saturday, was based on what the Secretary believed to be the best available information respecting the subject. "I sent for various persons," he says, "who I supposed were well posted, and talked with them fully." One of Mr. BAYARD's subordinates adds that "the fisheries have no better friend than the Secretary of State. He is disposed to do everything in his power to guard American interests."

Nobody who knows Mr. BAYARD will doubt this. But how did it happen that when the matter was before the Cabinet the interests of the Essex county fishermen failed to find a champion in the person of the Essex county statesman who is a member of the present Administration?

So far as results show, Judge Exproper falled to stand up and speak out for the fisheries which John Endicorr established on Cape Ann two hundred and fifty years ago. That is why the Secretary's neighbors at Gloucester and Marblehead are reproaching him now. When he goes back to Boston and visits the State House will he be able to look the old codfish in the face without a certain sense of shame?

The matter is of the greatest importance, as Mr. BAYARD says. And the fact must be kept in mind that what the New England fishermen want is not an international Commission, to bargain away their bread and butter again, but protection-protection in their rights on the seas and protection in the home fish markets.

# The Brooklyn Navy Yard.

The project of selling the Brooklyn Navy Yard has again come up for the consideration of Congress. This yard, including the ground occupied by the Naval Hospital, comprises nearly 250 acres of land. It is thought that, after the extension of streets through it, there would remain enough for about three thousand city lots. The temptation of adding so much to the taxpaying area of Brooklyn is great, while some special interests are concerned in securing a foothold on this snot. There are some considerations, however,

which should outweigh the prospective local

benefits to be obtained by removing the

yard. That there are now more naval stations than the Government needs is generally admitted; but the Brooklyn yard is not one of those which should be abandoned. The harbor of New York has two entrances from the sea, and requires for its proper protection floating as well as fixed defences. The Brooklyn yard is admirably situated as base of supplies and repair for the fleet which will have its habitual rendezvous in this harbor, whenever war is threatened. Without such a base the fleet might soon be made helpless. In this harbor, as the commercial centre of the Atlantic coast, there are always hundreds of steam tugs and craft of various sorts, which could be utilized in many ways against an enemy's attack, provided a navy yard were at hand for supplying the means of fitting them up, the skilled seamen, and the war material. It seems preposterous to give up such advantages for the defence of the largest and most important city of the country, after eleven millions have been laid out on the improvement of the navy yard site since its estab

lishment in the year 1801. It is probable, also, that a comparatively small sum would be obtained from the sale of the land, much of which is artificially made, a part being still swampy and only used for the storage of timber. The Government buildings would go for a song, being of little use for private purposes. The sale of the Philadelphia naval station a few years ago showed how Government property is sacrificed under such circumstances. A committee of the New York Chamber of Commerce once intimated that the entire property of the Brooklyn yard would not bring over \$5,000,000, even if a perfect title to the land could be given to purchasers; while Rear Admiral UPSHUR, at that time commanding the yard, estimated that \$20,000,000 would be required for improving any new

alte up to an equal capacity for work. No doubt there are drawbacks of various

sorts in the Brooklyn site. It is on an island, without railroad communication to the main land, and it lacks sufficient water for fresh water basins, which are so desirable for preserving fron ships. But the committee of the Chamber of Commerce which examined this matter several years ago considered these objections to be entirely outweighed by the great importance of having a navy vard in the harbor. Besides, the peculiar shape of the shore gives the Brooklyn yard extraordinary advantages of water front.

If it is desirable to take any of the Gov ernment land for city purposes, that part should be selected which is not occupied by the present uses of the navy yard, and wil not be occupied by its prospective extension. The Naval Hospital might possibly be re moved, but the navy yard apparently could not be abandoned or crippled without public loss. It should be remembered, also, that, so far as the defence of the harbor is concerned. Brooklyn has proportionally as much at stake as New York.

The Latest Phase of the Sharon Case. A very interesting phase of the celebrated litigation involving the claim of Miss SARAH ALTHEA HILL to judicial recognition as the wife of the late Senator SHARON is presented by the decision rendered on Saturday in the Circuit Court of the United States, in San

Francisco, by Judge SAWYER. The suit was brought by Mr. SHARON against Miss Hill to procure a decree adjudging the alleged contract of marriage beween them to be vold, on the ground that the plaintiff's signature thereto was forged. The jurisdiction of the Federal court, instead of a State court, was invoked for the reason that the parties were citizens of different States-the plaintiff being a citizen of Nevada and the defendant a citizen of California Senator Sharon did not live to hear the judgment, but it is in his favor on all the substantial questions in the case.

The opinion of the Circuit Judgo makes 1,731 pages of type writing on legal cap. This surpasses in length the extraordinary opinion which Prof. Theodore W. Dwight of the Columbia College Law School deliv ered as referee in the case of Martin against GARRISON, and which occupies 112 printed pages in Abbott's New Cases, in disposing of a motion to exclude certain evidence. In the Sharon case, however, a full discussion of the law and the facts was doubtless neces sary, and there is no reason to criticise the

judgment as too long.

The conclusion reached by Judge Sawyer. is that the paper which Miss HILL relies on as a contract or declaration of marriage is a forgery, not only as to the alleged signature of Senator Sharon, but in other material parts. He holds that the decision in the California State court against Mr. SHARON, in the divorce suit, cannot prevent him from proving in the Federal court that this document is fraudulent, inasmuch as the appeal taken by the Senator in the divorce case had the effect of suspending the operation of that judgment, and left the Federal court at liberty to proceed as though it had never been

Circuit Judge SAWYER is highly respected for his learning, ability, and character, and so, we believe, is the Judge of the State court who decided the divorce case in Miss HILL's favor. They seem to take different views of the same facts. From what we have ead of the case and heard of it, we imagine the facts might well divide a jury, and it is not surprising that they cause courts to dis-

But the end is not yet.

### The Blessings of the Gold Standard.

Opponents of silver money on this side of the Atlantic extol the blessings of the gold standard, and ascribe the depression of our business affairs to the fear of silver. Meanwhile the people of Great Britain, whose necks are under the yoke of gold, and who have not the faintest prospect of escape from it, are far from enjoying complete prosperity. Here is a picture of their condition, present ed by a London correspondent in the New York Times of yesterday:

"The suffering among the poor of London, which is alusual efforts at a Christmas alleviation seem to have been paralyzed by the immensity of the task, for com-paratively little organized charity has been reported. Any day during the past formight one could see thou ands of faint and ragged wretches prowling outside the wharves, each ready to fight the other in order to be one of a score who were admitted to a day's work for 40 cents f a ship happened to come in. Everywhere business is sported to be worse than it was a year ago. It is said that not a single Christmas publication has yielded a profit. At the London docks less than one-half the quan-tity of wine has been taken out of bond that was taken out last year. More tangible luxuries suffer in the same way. When it was stated a year ago that the British shipbuilding industries were off half a million tons it seemed that the worst showing had passed; but the report now is likely to show another diminution, and one pearly as great. This is a sample of all industries, while he farmers' prices have reached a starvation point."

It would be unjust to say that the whole of this misery comes from the operation of the gold standard, though in our opinion, and in that of some of the most sagaclous British economists, a large part of it is due to that cause. But it is quite certain that none of it proceeds from any fear of a transition to the silver standard, and that the removal of that fear from among us would be no sure remedy for trade depression.

#### An Unwise Prediction. Isn't our esteemed St. Louis contempo-

rary, the Globe-Democrat, a little hasty when it throws out this hint?

"Mem. for the Hon. Walliam M. Evants: No idiet will ever be President of the United States." What is to prevent a "silver idiot" from being elected President if the majority of he people in this country are for sliver? The Globe-Democrat should examine into the composition of the House of Representatives. According to the most thorough canvass of the House yet made, the silver idiots have a

clear majority of seventy-five. If it were only a question of his views on silver, that body would vote for Brother EVARTS for President with the greatest heerfulness; and the country at large might do the same.

The impassable, the damnable obstacle that stands in Evarre's way is his relation to the HAYES Fraud.

THE SUN says: "One word to the Democratic majority in Congress-Roomony," THE SUN should have added "housety,"—Chicago Inter-Ocean. We take that for granted. It is not a Robbersonian House that we are addressing.

The sentence just passed upon Gen. AIZ-PURU, the leader of the revolutionists at Panama last spring, may at first seem rather harsh in view of the fact that his surrender of that city to the lawful authorities was the result of peaceful negotiations, carried on under the uspices of our own naval forces.

Before these forces intervened the insurgents had taken complete possession of the Isthmus But while on the Gulf coast PRESTAN and PAN-TRIZELLE committed great atrocities, like the ourning of Aspinwall, for which outrage both were afterward hanged, Alzpunu on the Paelfic shore apparently governed with moderation, preserved order, and took no vengeance on the supporters of the Bogota Gov-ernment whom he had overthrown. The surrender of Panama to the national forces on Admiral Jouerr's intervention took place in virtue of an agreement drawn up in the office of the railroad company. It asknowledged Am-FURU to be "Chief of the Government de facto established in this city," and Col. MONTOTA, in

coepting the submission of the rebess, pledged to natives and foreigners all the guarantees which the Constitution con ers upon them."

Perhaps the punishment of Azzrunu is less evere than it seems. Exice for ten years is quite different from imprisor ment, and, though he further penalty of pays -q all damages assessed as resulting from the Panama revolution may appear like confiscation of his prop erty, he ran that risk in leading the revolt.

Senator Evants has been "terviewed on the silver question by a reporter of the New York Tribune, with the following result:

"My opinion on the impertance of maintaining bot netals in the service of commerce, as expressed when s elegate of the United States at the Silver Conference in

Mr. Evants also dented the report that he was preparing a speech on the subject, though ie was ready to debate it when it came up in the Senate. On these slender premises of fact the Tribune takes upon Itself to declare that Mr. Evants "realizes as fully as any other statesman that the coinage of superfluous dollars, if carried on much longer at the present rate, will be sure to upset the finances of the nation." He said nothing of the sort, and gave no grounds for supposing that he thinks it.

Gen. Logan's bill providing pensions for all Union soldiers who were captured and con-fined in Confederate military prisons makes a singular discrimination. Under its provisions those soldiers who were captured would now receive greater rewards than those who were not. There was much suffering in prison, but there was also great privation and peril in the march and on the field of battle. Liberal provision was long ago made for pensioning not only the heirs of those who died in Confederate prisons, but all those who there contracted disabilities from which they have since suffered. But prisoners who contracted no disabilities may not have claims for pecuniary compensation above those of their comrades in arms, who meanwhile fought battle after battle, and who, instead of being captured themselves, captured their enemies former may have conducted themselves with the most praiseworthy gallantry, as many uquestionably did, before the hard fortune o war forced them to surrender; but the fact of capture is no ovidence that their conduct was any nobler than that of those who never had to surrender. The principle of the bill is as questionable as it is novel.

Senator Cocknell's term in the Senate ex pires a year from next March. There is some Democratic opposition in Missouri to redlect ng him, on the ground that he has alread had twelve years in the Senate and that "able; men are asking for his place." The contest in Missouri promises to be interesting, for Sen ator Cocknell has a strong hold on the party organization, and is a good poli-tician and a man of wit. His remark concerning one of the "abler men" who are asking for his place is characteristic. don't think," Cocknell is reported as saying that the Missouri Democrats will set aside a nan who fought with his gun for a man who lought with his mouth."

Nobody in Missouri, so far as we can learn has yet proposed to send the Hon. CARI SCHURZ back to the seat which he occupied be fore COCKRELL.

Since Dr. Johnson's suggestion that Irish nothers holl not be still tables as a means of keeping town Irish overpopulation and keeping off a famine no nore whimsical proposition concerning Irish affairs has seen advanced than that of the London Times.—Attany

What monstrous injustice to the memory of s good and kind-hearted man! Dr. Johnson never proposed to boil the Irish babies; his was incapable of the conception which seemed humorous to the Dean of St. Patrick's

It is said that the military authorities at Washington will soon call in all the magazine rifles issued to troops, and supply their places with Springfields. This action will be the re suit of the interesting series of trials of the Lee, the Hotchkiss, and the Chaffee-Reec magazine guns, in comparison with the Gov ernment arm, arranged by a Board of Officers convened for the purpose four years ago. The magazine guns were distributed for trial by Gen. SHERIDAN, and reports from 140 com panies stationed in all parts of the country have been received, examined, and tabulated by Gan. Bener, the Chief of Ordnance. Com. paring the magazine guns with each other the reports are largely in favor of the Lec Comparing them with the Springfield as single loaders, the preference is largely for the Springfield. Comparing them with the Springfield for all uses, the preference is also largely for the Springfield, which has forty-six indications in its favor, for all uses, against seventeen

for all the three magazine guns combined. It does not follow that the magazine gur will not one day triumph over the Springfield On the contrary, this is the conclusion of Gen BENET'S report to Secretary Endicorn:

'I have been and am an advocate for a magazine gun out it would seem the part of wisdom to postpone fo he present any further efforts toward the adoption of sultable mayazine arm for the service. The Springfiel an safely wait a reasonable time for further develop-nents of magazine systems."

Probably the detailed objections set forth in the tabulated statements that accompany the report will stimulate the inventors of magazine guns to overcome them, especially as even in their present condition these guns have not a few enthusiastic advocates in the army.

Does anybody in Chicago read the Chicago Times nowadays? It is still published, but several interesting newspapers are also pub-

The Hon, Edwards Plerrapont for Free Coin age of Silver.

From the St. Louis Republican.

Mr. John T. Field of this city received the following letter yesterday from the Hon. Edwards Pierrepont: Mr Daan Sin: I thank you much for your very valu able pamphists. One of three things must happen: the Silver bill will be suspended or repealed, or there will be a substitute increasing the weight of the dellar, or

there will be free coinage of the present dollar.

Any stoppage of coinage kills silver and gives all power to the gold men for our generation at least. War or famine would not cause more trouble.

No silver bill which does not make coinage free and

circulate the silver by legal tender notes will be of much use. I mean free coinage for American silver. I doubt much that if we open our nitute to the free coinage of the silver of those nations which will not coin alive at all, we will not regret it.

It is humiliating to see the richest, greatest nation is

the world afraid to adopt a financial policy suited to our conditions, and stretching our suppliant hands across the sea to beg for directions as to how we may arrange

ur currency.

The Bland bill must not be repealed unless there is a substitute, and legal tender notes must circulate th eliver or nothing will be gained. Yours iruly, Kaw Yong, Dec. 21. Euwanne Pinnmarour.

#### The Boy that Holman Befriended. From the National Republican.

Every one will remember the appointment of a little cripple named Willie Howard to be a page in the last House. This poor little chap, although quite well along in years, is not much more than three feet high, and is badly crippled. He somehow or other elicited the sympathy of "Objector" Holman, who is this instance did not oppose the fatal objection when the boy ap-plied for a piace. Mr. Holman placed him in front of the Appropriations Committee room door, and kept him there in spite of the protests of those who did not like to see the little follow suffering. He is not here this ass-sion, and it is said that the little fellow will never be able to again take his place among the employees of the

After securing his place a year ago the boy purchased a pair of goats and a little wagon and secured a great deal of keen enjoyment from the exercise of driving the pair from place to place. During his sickness this sun mer some secundrel stole his goats, and the boy is desti-tute and dying. It is said that Mr. Holman, who has soft corners in his heart in spite of outward appearances, is quietly working among the members who know the lad to secure for him a small pures which shall make his last hours at least comfortable.

# Mr. Myclow's Measons for Decitotag.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.-Mr. Bigelow's letter to the President decitating to accept the office of Assistant United States Treasurer at New York will not be given out for publication at present. Col. Lamont said to night: "Mr. Regelow's decitation is solely because of his disnellastion to assume the great responsibilities of the office and its duties belog not congental to his lastes." BURSTA'S OREST EXPLORER.

Col. Prejevalsky, the greatest of Russian ravellers, has returned from his fourth series of explorations in the vast region lying between Siberta and China. These journeys. covering a distance of about 20,000 miles, have made large additions to our knowledge of Mongolia, Thibet, and Eastern or Chinese Turkestan, and Prejevalsky has pioneered the vay into some great districts that had hitherte been unexplored. His latest travels have ocsupled nearly two years, and he returns with large collections and a great deal of novel and

He has won in this journey his best laurels as an explorer by his discovery of the upper waters of the two great rivers of China. The Chinese attempted before the Christian era and again in the last century to explore the head-waters in northern Thibet of the Hoang-ho and Yang-teze-Klang Rivers, but their expeditions were driven back by flerce mountain tribes, and this part of Thibet has remained until the present day a region almost wholly unknown to geographers. Prejevalsky's little band of four-teen men did not win the honor they coveted without two severe fights with the savage Tangutans. The superiority of their weapons vas all that saved the Russian expedition. The flint looks of the natives were no match for Berdan rifles. Prejevalsky's party came out unscathed, but in defending their lives they killed and wounded forty men, the only deplorable incident in Prejevalsky's long career

In the mountains, nearly 14,000 feet above the sea, the explorer found the two or three modest streams, each about seventy feet wide and shallow, that form the sources of the Hoang-ho, or Yellow River, which he followed for some distance toward the boundaries of China. Then, after retracing his steps, he went southward, and at a distance of only sixty-seven miles from the Hoang-ho reached the muddy and rapid waters of the Yang-tszeby high mountains, is 300 feet wide and very deep. He spent several weeks in this region which no white man had ever before visited. His letters, preceding the detailed history of

the expedition yet to be written, give us wonderful pictures of some of the strangest and most diversified portions of the earth's surface. Leaving Siberia at Kiachta, he crossed the great Gobi desert at its widest, travelling 700 miles over its northern grassy steppes and the sea of sand south of them extending to China. A desert noted for its terrible cold in winter, its almost tropical heat in summer, scarcity of water and general barrenness, the Mongols, nevertheless, inhabit all parts of it, their flocks subsisting on the poorest fodder. Then he traversed a part of the pla-teau of northern Thibet, where the enormous altitude of the plains, from 13,000 to 15,000 fee above the sea, prolongs winter until June and July in latitudes considerably south of New York. He visited the interesting lakes that diversify these most elevated regions in the world, and explored the mountain masses that wall in the entire northern frontier of Thibet Then he made his way along the chain of beautiful and highly cultivated little cases that appear like little green islands in the wild desert west of famous Lob-noor. Defeated once more by the Chiuseo in his efforts to react Lhassa, the Rome of Buddhism, through west ern Thibet, he made his way through Eastern Turkestan to the Russian territories in Contral Asia.

The explorer says that gold is plentiful in northern Thibet. Not far from the sources of he Hoang-ho he found natives washing gold. Though they dug only one or two feet below he surface, he says they showed him whole handfuls of gold in lumps as big as peas, and he believes that with careful working vas treasures would be found here. He predicts hat in the course of time northern Thibet will be found to be as rich and perhaps richer than California in the precious metals that lie in the soil of this desert tableland.

Prejevalsky asserts that the Mongols, Thibetans, and other people living along the north Thibetan border and in Chinese Turkestan are heartly tired of China's oppressive rule and burdensome taxation, and that many of them long to become subjects of Russia. He was repeatedly told by the chiefs both of the cases and mountain tribes that if Russia would give them a leader they would revolt against China and join their fortunes with Russian Turkestun. As an instance of the tyranny of the Chinese Governors he tells of a remarkable artifice employed a while ago by the Chinese to get possession of the herds and six chests of sliver belonging to the chief of the poor little tribe at Lob-noor. The edict suddenly went forth that the people of Lob-noor must wear pigtails. The Lob-noorians had always shaved their heads, and they were frightened by the fore they succeeded in having the odious edict revoked, their chief was compelled to part with all his wealth.

Prejevalsky, though the most prominent, is only one of a score of trained and able Russian explorers who, in the interest of their Government, are seeking out every little known region quest is not yet quenched, and there are many note indicating that just as she wrested Kuidja and the Amoor from China she will some day. in all probability, add Eastern Turkestan, already estranged from her Oriental mester, to the Russian provinces that are now its next door neighbors.

A Year's Work in Mt. Sinal Bosnital.

The patrons and trustees of the Mt. Sinai Hospital held their annual meeting yesterday morning, at the hospital. The report of the Executive Committee showed that \$06,942 had been received during the year ending Dec. I, and that the expenses during the same time had been \$63,000. More than \$16,000 of the receipts were from legacies. The number of applicants for admission had been \$806, of whom 2,126 had been received. Three hundred and ten applicants were refused, for want of room. The number of patients treated during the year was 2,802, an increase of nearly \$50 per cent. Since 1873. Only \$5\frac{1}{2}\$ per cent of the patients were really to year the remainder being treated gratuitously. The report recommended the formation of a ladiest flower mission to work in the heapitest, as flowers in the wards and sick rooms had an excellent effect.

H. ditterman, \$60. Sommerich, L. M. Hornthal, and \$1. Rottschild were resiscted trustees, and Hyman Hum, Issae Wallach, and Samuel M. Schafer were resiscted Fresident, Vice President, and Treasurer. howed that \$98.942 had been received during the year

New York's Flourishing Commerce.

A little six-page Treasury document relating to foreign commerce and immigration shows that while the exports of the country for eleven months ending Nov. 30 of this year were \$014,302,889, against \$638,022, 373 during a like peried of 1884, the exports from New York had increased from \$298,684,995 in 1884 to \$301,-377,414 in 1885. The total imports of the nation for the eleven months of 1886 were \$51,680,835 less than during the same period of 1886, the failing off in the imports of New York amounting to \$65,284,692. The imports of the whole country amount to \$525,630,032, of which \$352,-038,489 passed through this oily.

Immigration has fallen off, only 263,963 people having arrived at this port in place of \$15,435 who came here in the first eleven months of 1864. The total immigration of the country during this period was \$14,809.

Honorably Discharged Saidlers Organizing A number of honorably discharged soldier

> Mr. Bigolow's Declination. From the New York Pribune.

There will be some surprise and general reret that John Burelow declines the Sub-Treasurership. A Democrat who might properly aspire to the Secretary one of the Pederal offices in New York city. But still sojoy the benefits of Mr. Bigelow's services in the plac o which the Administration called him

# Labor Battling for Itel Rights.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The enter-prise of THE SUN in giving so complete a history of the most and present of the Knights of Labor places it in the ran of newspaper enterprise. An order which is movin

MR. M'KENZIE'S LUCKY HIT.

How We Obtained an Appropriation for From the Chicago News.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.-Congressman Pay son of Illinois tells a good story about Jim McKenzie, the very bright and witty Kentuckian who formerly represented the Paducal

A bill which McKenzie had introduced for a public building at Paducah had been favorably reported by the committee. It was placed or the calendar, where, in all probability, it would remain forever unless some extraordinary effort was made to bring it before the House. McKenzie tried repeatedly to catch the Speaker's eye, but for some reason Randall chose to ignore him. The end of the session was grad-ually drawing near, and McKenzie began to grow desperate. One day, while the regular order of business was under consideration. McKenzie startled the House by rising to his feet and shouting:

"Mr. Speaker! I rise to a question of the bighest privilege." The gentleman from Kentucky will state his question," answered Mr. Randall, turning

n McKenzie's direction. "My question, sir, involves a matter of the highest privilege—the right of a member to his

This rather sensational announcement drew apen him the attention of the entire House. The silence which followed was broken again

McKenzie, who continued: "I ask unanimous consent to take from the salendar House bill No. 14,796 and pass it un-

der a suspension of the rules." The calendar was hastily consulted, when it was discovered that House bill No. 14,796 pro-vided for the erection of a public building at Paducah, Ky. Randall was furious with rage. The gentleman from Kentucky forgets himself," he began, when McKenzie, with comical seriousness, interrupted him: "I spoke the clain, unvarnished truth when I said the passage of that bill involved the right to my seat. If I don't succeed in securing the necessary appropriation. I need never expect to return

o Congress again.' At this sally the House burst into a broad roar of laughter, whereupon Frank Hiscock, over on the Republican side, begged that Mr. McKenzie's request be complied with, and that unanimous consent be given to pass the bill. There were no objections, and within sixty seconds McKenzie secured what he had waited

for months to accomplish. It was he who said Hayes's Administration would live in history for two reasons-weak vetoes and cold water at state dinners.

MAYOR WHITNEY'S APPOINTEES.

Who Some of Them will be, and the Kind of Men and Democrate They Are.

The slate makers in Brooklyn have been busy for ten days in arranging a list of Mayorelect Whitney's appointments of heads of departments. These he will have a right to make any time between Jan. 1 and Feb. 1. Varying and conflicting rumors are being circulate about the Mayor's intention to appoint this and that man, in the interest of this and that clique, the names mentioned being those of men par-ticularly sunoxious to the rank and file of the regular organization and its leaders, including hat wise and sagacious politician, Hugh Mc-Laughlin, whose efforts and advice have conributed in so eminent a degree to place the Kings county Democracy in the prominent position they now occupy in the councils of the party in the State and nation.

The best-informed Democrats say that Mr Whitney is an old-school Democrat, a lover of is party and its success; that while seeking to nake his appointments from the very best ma terial the party affords, he will do nothing which would lead to the revival of the factions strifes and disputes that formerly distracted the party; that men positively objectionable to either of the former Democratic organizations will not be appointed; and, finally, they rest quietly contented in their belief in Mr. Whit-ney's good sense and love of fairness, by which he has so long been characterized in his po-litical and business life and every day desling. All seem to agree that Mr. William Schwarz-wasider, a well-known merchant of this city, but a life-long resident of Brocklyn, will be named for the place of Commissioner of City Works. He is a German, having been born about fifty years ago at Bingen on the Rhine-but he came to this country when he was hard-ly a year eld. He was long engaged in business with his brother. Col. Christian Schwarzwasi-der, how ratired from active business, and President of the Germania Bank. From what may be learned of Mr. Schwarzwaeider, this may be considered an unexceptionable selec-tion. will not be appointed; and, finally, they rest

With the same unanimity of approval Col.
Thomas Carroll is used for Police Commissioner. Formerly a tobacco merchant in this city, having once occupied the office of Register, and having been besten for resilection only by treachery, Col. Carroll is one of the most hard-working and popular Democrats in Brooklyn. At all times he has contributed largely of his time and money, and he is entitled to a recognition of his valuable services to the party.

largely of his time and money, and he is entitled to a recognition of his valuable services to the party.

For Commissioner of Buildings Joseph Platt seems to lead in the probabilities of selection. He is in every way qualified by experience for the place. He is now one of the Commissioners of Election. Bome people think that a younger man might have been selected, but Mr. Whitney has known his worth for many years.

For Commissioners of Excise there have been more than a hundred candidates, but John Cunningham and John Schliemann seem to be ahead. Mr. Cunningham has long been in politics. He was formerly a Commissioner of Charities. Mr. Schliemann is a grocer and is a new man, but he is well spoken of. Mr. Whitney long since announced his determination to appoint neither a Prohibitionist nor any one interested in the liquor traffic to the Excise Board, but that the rights of all should be respected.

any one interested in the liquor traffic to the Excise Board, but that the rights of all should be respected.

For Fire Commissioner the principal candidates are George Ricard Conner and John Ennis. The former is a conspicuous citizen of the Exstern District, and is now Alderman-at-large. He declined a renomination. He is a son of Thomas Conner, formerly Alderman of the Esstern battrict, and is now Alderman of the Seventh ward of this city. He served his time in the Volunteer Fire Department. He is highly recommended by the insurance interests and many good citizens. John Ennis, his principal competitor, who also resides in the Rastern District, is a manufacturer of shoes and a large employer. Either would make a good Commissioner, but Conner is the more likely to receive the appointment.

Andrew Otterson, M. D., will receive the apsointment of Health Commissioner. He has held the place before under Democratic Administrations. He is well qualified by experience. He stands high in his profession, is an old resident of Brooklyn, and is very popular among the Democracy and all classes of the community.

The office of Registrar of Arrears, it is likely, will be filled by the promotion of Mathew Cole, the present deputy, who has held the place ander many incumbents, among whom was Mr. Whitney himself. Mr. Theodore F. Jackson, the present incumbent, it is understood, did not seek a reappointment, but united in a requiset for the selection of Mr. Cole. Mr. Cole is admirably qualified by experienced training and ability, and his appointment is considered as a marked advance in the spirit of true civil service reform.

ervice reform. For President of Board of Assessors, Thomas For Fresidant of Board of Assessors. Thomas Wilson seems to be most prominently urged. He is a member of the present Board, and is amply qualified from his many years' experience as assessor. He was a life-long intimate friend of the late Hon. Thomas Kinsella, who always took a deep interest in his fortunes. His appointment will leave a vacancy as assessor, for which siready there are many candidates.

Gossips units to saving that these has been

aor, for which already there are many candidates,
Gossips unite in saying that there has been a terrible contest over the place of Collector of Taxes, but well-informed insiders say that this assertion is unfounded, and that there is no frouble about the matter. Mr. Charles J. Henry, ex-Assemblyman and ex-Charlites Commissioner, was named for the place by one or two adherents, but the mere suggestion called forth such opposition from the leaders and rank and file of the working Democracy that it was at once absndoned. There are so many candidates, all excellent, that Mr. Whitney seems embarrassed in his advice; but a conclusion is likely to be arrived at within a day or two.

The present incumbent, Adam Wheelock, will, without doubt be appointed City Treasurer. He is a Republican, but he is an excellent man and an upright citizen. His appointment has been asked for by all the financial institutions and by many citizens, irrespective of party.

Mr. Whitney seems to be about to redeem his

of party.

Mr. Whitney seems to be about to redeem his ante-election promises to the public, and to show them, while avowedly elected as a Democrat and partisan, he intends to give Brooklyn good and substantial government.

Gen. Sheridan and the Labor Langue.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.-At a meeting of the Labor League of America to-day a resolution was adopted reciting Lieut. Gen. Sheridan's services to the country and calling on Congress to give him rank with Grant and Sherman as a Guirral in the army. A resolu-tion was adopted to varied the payment of atoms breakers by the day instead of by the yard. AMERICA'S GREAT LABOR UNION.

A Student of Modern Industrial Movemente

A close student of the movements of labor, and one who deeply sympathizes with the efforts of all true reforms in the direction aimed at by the Knights of Labor, after reading the history of that great order in THE SUN of Sunday, talked with a reporter about it. He had often conversed with leading ones among the Knights about their federation, and had long been well informed upon the subject. This is the substance of what he said were the im-

pressions a study of the order had left;
"That great order confirms the impression that labor in America is at a stage long since passed in England, and yet is following the English process of evolution so closely that one can see what is to come. The English, too, had their secret and mysterious societies appeal-

English process of evolution so closely that one can see what is to come. The English, too, had their secret and mysterious societies appealing to superstition and to the less nobic passions, which make a man feel that he has connected himself with what may be used as a terrible underground machine for the pursuit of revenge and the accomplishment of the destruction of an enemy. The boycotting is rather a new word than a new idea, and strikes are very hard and for the slightest cause. These two avenues by which the Knights make themselves felt are milestones the English laboray has left behind him. The amount of money spent here in strikes is something elimply stupendous. One atrike in a western city cost 200,000 in weekly payments by all trades to one on strike, and even then the strike did not succeed. And this strenditure goes on all the while. Each member pays a pittanee, but in the aggregate the payments become a tremendous lume, and this is used mainly in strikes, the rest (a mere tithe) in salaries, organizing. Ac.

"In England, on the other hand, labor has \$40,000,000 invested in cooperative stores, so managed that the laborer buys necessaries very cheap, and the profits are divided among all. They understand there that you as good as increase wages when you increase the purchasing power of money, and this increase wages, because the influences governing the laws of trade are different in different places, and labor and capital must be left to arrange their own affairs in this respect. Strikes are few in England, and are quickly over, Labor there has had more experience, and the injury of indiscriminate striking has been powerfully felt.

"The Knights of Labor are becoming Americanized. Their ranks contain practical, far-secing, shrewid Americana, and also the dreamy, theoretical, and socialistic Germans. Austrians, and others. There is all the time, consciously or unconsciously, now openly and always invarid to the strike of Labor have ton much to do with polities. They expect too much to do with polit

### SUNBEAMS.

-Experiments on an extensive scale have been made in Germany to ascertain the relative strength of iron and steel girders. The soft-steel girders proved to be 22 per cent. and hard-steel girders 66 percent. stronger than the iron girders; and it is remarked that it seemed pretty well established that the atrength of steel girders is about the same for the two danges if made alike in section.

The negroes of Rome, Ga., are now afraid

to put their heads out of the door after dark. Vague stories are circulated of medical students who goabroad in the darkness and seize the first victim that comes along and, after killing him, carry the body of to the colleges for dissection. It seems to be a kind of craze with the negrous of Georgia. In Macon a few weeks ago an old woman was mourning the loss of a son, whom she alleged had fallen a victim to the body enatchers. A similar graze prevailed around Thomas

ville a month or two ago. -Spiders were formerly considered to be a cure in rural districts for ague. Some years ago a lady in freland was famous for her success in curing people thus affected. It appears that the only medicine she em-ployed was a large spider rolled up in treasle. The panents were ignorant of the contents of this novel bolus, to that imagination had nothing to do with the matter. In England, also, the spider has been called in as an ague doctor. In Lincolnshire the cruature was treated very much after the above mentioned frish fashion, being rolled up in paste and swallowed; but elsewhere the ani-

nal is put into a bag and worn round the neck -The metric system of weights and ures was adopted enthusiastically in many inhoratories when first introduced, but is now said to be rapidly los-ing ground. It has been the cause of many serious errors. The fact that the misplacement of a little do: will turn a comparatively harmless dose of medicine into one having a deadly poisoning power bears strongly against ft. Mr. Oscar Oldberg, a much respected druggist, who formerly advocated the system, has decided it to be unsuited to our requirements, and this will have much inluence with many people who felt the defects of the

-In a report on alcoholism, read before the Academie des Sciences, M. Lancersaux said that the patients addicted to excessive drinking who were allnitted into the hospitals were mostly from the provinces where pure brandy is largely consumed. He thought that the use of comparatively harmless beverages should be encouraged. Whee causes rapid stimulation of the nervous system, and the excess absorbed determines or ranic lesions of the nerve centres and liver. Alcoholism from wine favors the development of tuberculous meain-ritis. He found that the children of vineus drockards o not inherit the vice, but this is not the case with hose whose parents have drunk to excess from the dis-

-An improved method of tanning-namey, with soap and oil, together with carbolic acid—has been brought to notice by an Australian inventor. The akins, which have been fined in the ordinary manner. also haired and prepared if for the production of solicitative, are placed in a tin bath consisting of a mixture of ten gallons of water, in which 200 pounds of scap are dissolved, and containing one gallon of carbolic acid, in which the skins are left until they have became conrerted into leather. This process, it is asserted, may be considerably accelerated by siding a pint of fresh car-solic acid to the tanning fluid from time to time. For a softer leather the raw, limed, and haired skins are for one or two days placed in a mixture of four parts carbon isulphide and one of carbolic acid, and then washed.

—A French piscatory journal has been re-

coating the assertion that the Portuguese oyster crosses with the true native, or gravette, in the Arcachon beds, roducing a hybrid that tastes like cod-liver oil, and the local syster growers are consequently very writh. They say this likel is causing them considerable damaye, Eng-lish fatteners having been prejudiced against laying down oyster fry from Arcachon. Whether the two species can produce a hybrid or not, says the St James's Gasette, there is no doubt that the Portuguese oyster has been in their waters since at least 1860. This being so he driving out of the native, except where artificially laid down in enclosed beds, is a mere question of time The coarse, base, vigorous, swift growing mule foot, as it is called from its shape in the Bay of Biscay, is certain to crowd out the weaker and tenderer cyster.

-Referring to an announcement that at a recent exhumation in a Western consistry the body of a woman was found turned to stone, the Louisville Medical News says: "Petrifaction of the body of a warm-blooded animal never has been known, and it is quite ase to say never has taken place. The condition of the body which leads to such a misconception is not that of patrikection, but of saponification." It is explained that nitrogenous tissues give off amments, and this strock-ing the fais in the body, produces all poore, a hard form of soap. The writer, when at the New Orieans fair, saw a barrel of pork labelled, "Found floating in the Missis-sippl in an advanced state of patrifaction." Being skeptical as to the capacity of rocks to float, he chipped off a piece and found that the hog, like the human being un-der like circumstances, had merely turned to adipecare.

-A curious manufacture! peculiar to Tunis is that of skull caps, noted for their brilliancy of color, their fineness and durability, as compared with these made in France and Italy. The wool, a mixture of native Tunislan and Spanish, the proportion of each varying according to the intended flueness and price of the article, is combed and spun into a fine soft thread, and woven, or oftener knit, into the conical caps. These are soaked in oil, and then a kind of form being placed on the knee of the workman, they are milled by rubbing the sides together, frequently turning the caus; by this rocess they are reduced to about one-balf their first size. When the cap is sufficiently thickened, it is brushed with a burr from a kind of thistle, in order to bring out the map, the fibres which project too far being out off with shears. The caps, thus reduced, napped, and alipped, are in the form of a deni-glebe, and are then sent to Tarvan, to be dyed a deep crimson, the water at this place being of a peculiar adaptedness for the dyeing.